

SB 214, HCA 1 -- WITNESS FEES

SPONSOR: Bartle (Byrd)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Judiciary by a vote of 18 to 0.

This bill allows witnesses a fee of \$25 per day plus mileage. Under current law, witness fees are determined by guidelines promulgated by the Missouri Supreme Court.

HCA 1 -- Clarifies that the bill applies only to witnesses subpoenaed to testify in depositions or court proceedings.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Net Cost to General Revenue Fund of \$78,898 to Unknown in FY 2004, \$94,677 to Unknown in FY 2005, and \$94,677 to Unknown in FY 2006.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill is necessary because current witness fees are inadequate.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Bartle; and Board of Governors of the Missouri Bar.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Julie Jinkens McNitt, Legislative Analyst